United Nations A/58/259

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 August 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Item 76 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General hereby transmits to the General Assembly the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the activities of the Institute for the period from August 2002 to July 2003 and the proposed programme of work and estimated budget for the biennium 2003-2004.

The report was considered and approved for submission to the General Assembly by the Board of Trustees of the Institute at the forty-first session of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, held from 16 to 18 July 2003.

* A/58/150.

03-46325 (E) 220903

Report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the activities of the Institute for the period from August 2002 to July 2003 and the proposed programme of work and budget of the Institute for the biennium 2003-2004

Summary

The General Assembly issued a standing request in 1984 for the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to report to the Assembly on the activities of the Institute on a yearly basis. To that end, the Director prepared the present report covering the activities of the Institute during the period from August 2002 to July 2003 for the consideration of the Board of Trustees of the Institute at the forty-first session of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, held from 16 to 18 July 2003.

The Director reports that the work programme of the Institute continued to be centred on three main areas: global security and disarmament; regional security and disarmament; and human security and disarmament, addressing the full range of substantive disarmament issues from small arms to weapons in space.

The subvention from the United Nations regular budget is the guarantee of the Institute's independence. By means of the present report, the Board of Trustees transmits to the Secretary-General a recommendation for a subvention for the Institute from the regular budget for the year 2004. The Director also reports on the status of the voluntary funds from Governments and philanthropic foundations.

I. Introduction

1. The present report informs the Board of Trustees of the activities of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) during the period from August 2002 to July 2003 and the planned programme for 2004 and beyond.

II. Management and staffing

2. The work of United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research is carried out with a dedicated, small staff: a director, a deputy director, an administrative assistant, a specialized secretary for publications, a computer systems manager, a research programmes manager and conference organizer, a fellowship and internship coordinator, editors for the journal and for reports and books, and project researchers. Currently, the number of staff is growing, and core staff members are on one-year renewable contracts. A stronger core staff is being developed to reinforce the Institute's research programme. All attempts are being made to increase the Institute's core and project income so that staff numbers can be increased and contracts improved. In 2002, UNIDIR continued its new fellowship programme and increased the number of research interns, thus substantially increasing the number of researchers. Over the last year UNIDIR had 21 staff members, of whom 2 were directing staff, 3 were support staff (administrative and technical), 5 were core substantive programme staff, 4 were project managers/directors and 7 were research fellows. In addition, during the past year UNIDIR has hosted 35 research interns from 18 countries.

3. Following the improvement and regrading of UNIDIR contracts, the Institute has, from the beginning of 2002, continued to implement a salary structure based on United Nations Professional and General Service grades. This is a step on the way to more fully integrating UNIDIR administrative and personnel structures with those of the United Nations central administration.

4. UNIDIR holds weekly staff meetings, monthly research meetings and biannual strategic planning meetings. Equality of opportunity, skills training and staff appraisal are high on the management agenda. Recent training included courses on language, negotiation and conflict resolution, management systems and computer software.

III. Subvention from the United Nations regular budget

5. A subvention, used to cover the costs of the Director and administration, is necessary for the forthcoming biennium. The subvention is important not only economically, but also to ensure the independence of the Institute. With the strong and continuing support of the UNIDIR Board of Trustees, tireless efforts by the Director and the capable assistance provided by the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, in particular the personal support received from the Under-Secretary-General of the Department, the subvention has been cost adjusted to take account of inflation and other cost increases. In the biennium 1996-1997, the subvention was reduced from $220,000 to $213,000, and remained at $213,000 until 2001. For the biennium 2002-2003, the total appropriation approved by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session was $447,100. Therefore, the

UNIDIR subvention in 2003 was $227,600. The first increase for cost adjustments since the establishment of UNIDIR occurred in 2002.

6. In view of the importance of the United Nations subvention, support for its increase and continuing cost adjustment are needed as part of the effort to ensure the independence of UNIDIR and to facilitate growth in voluntary income. The welcome cost adjustment for the present biennium needs to be applied in future bienniums, and efforts to ensure that it is increased to an adequate level should be undertaken with sustained vigour.

IV. Recent and planned activities

7. The Institute's research programme comprises three sections: global security and disarmament, regional security and disarmament, and human security and disarmament.

A. Global security and disarmament

8. Much of the focus of the Institute's work is on global security and disarmament. This includes research on the implementation of agreed treaties and on issues relevant to current negotiations.

1. Conference on Disarmament

9. Despite, perhaps because of, the impasse that continues in the Conference on Disarmament, UNIDIR has been actively involved in a range of consultations on the issues pertaining to the work of the Conference. UNIDIR has been involved in informal discussions on reform of the Conference process, the participation of civil society, fissile materials, nuclear disarmament, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, security assurances and outer space issues.

10. In November 2002, UNIDIR, Project Ploughshares and the Simons Foundation held a meeting on outer space and global security in order to contribute to the work of the Conference on Disarmament. In December 2002, UNIDIR, the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt and the Government of Germany held a meeting on international cooperation in combating nuclear terrorism and the role of nuclear arms control. In March 2003, UNIDIR and the Governments of Japan and Australia co-hosted a meeting on promoting verification in multilateral arms control treaties. The meeting was attended by Conference delegations and international experts.

11. In order to highlight the disarmament work in Geneva, the Institute's Director is writing a regular column in *Disarmament Times*. The political realities of the Conference on Disarmament are explained in detail with the aim of achieving a wider understanding of the complexities of negotiations in Geneva.

2. Nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament

12. Following the successful negotiation of the African Nuclear Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), an effort to obtain all the 28 ratifications required for its entry into force is under way. As part of that effort, UNIDIR has published an account of the treaty negotiations by Oluyemi Adeniji, who chaired the

African Union/United Nations group of experts, which was charged with examining the modalities and elements for the preparation and implementation of the Treaty. A seminar to launch the book was held in May 2003 with Mr. Adeniji and Mr. S. A. Kalinde of the African Union.

13. *Tactical Nuclear Weapons: Time for Control*, edited by Taina Susiluoto, was published in September 2002. The book contains a statement by former President Mikhail Gorbachev and writing by experts on the issue, with an attempt to focus international attention on the lack of a legal instrument for controlling tactical nuclear weapons. Further work on tactical nuclear weapons will focus on new nuclear weapons that may be under development.

14. The second issue of *Disarmament Forum* in 2003 was dedicated to the issue of nuclear terrorism and includes: "Special comment", by Rüdiger Lüdeking; "Nuclear terrorism: risk analysis after 11 September 2001", by Annette Schaper; "The contribution of arms control to fighting nuclear terrorism", by Bin Li and Zhiwei Liu; "Commercial radioactive sources: surveying the security risks", by Charles D. Ferguson, Tahseen Kazi and Judith Perera; "The implications of 11 September for the nuclear industry", by John H. Large; "FM(C)T benefits and burdens: today's needs, tomorrow's opportunities", by Thomas E. Shea; and "Some reflections on transparency in the contemporary security environment", by William Walker.

3. Missiles and missile defences

15. In recent years, UNIDIR has been building up its research effort on the topic of missiles and missile defences.

16. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 A of 20 November 2000, the Secretary-General appointed a group of governmental experts to prepare a report on the issue of missiles in all its aspects for the consideration of the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session. UNIDIR was appointed to assist the group, and its Deputy Director, Christophe Carle, and consultant Waheguru Pal Singh Sidhu took on the role of consultants during the period from July 2001 to July 2002. Both consultants will publish papers on the issue of missiles and missile proliferation.

17. A conference entitled "What prospects for missile control?" was hosted by UNIDIR and the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) in Paris in March 2003. It took stock of recent and ongoing attempts to address the arms control and disarmament challenges posed by missiles and considered the next steps for various current initiatives.

18. In June, UNIDIR, with the Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies; the Mountbatten Centre for International Studies at the University of Southampton; and the Simons Centre for Peace and Disarmament Studies held a meeting at Winston House, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on missile proliferation, missile defences and space security: confronting and addressing new challenges. The conference specifically looked at the linkages between space weaponization, missile proliferation and missile defences.

4. Biological and chemical weapons

19. As part of the Institute's efforts under the Geneva Forum, Jenni Rissanen, Ditta Ciganikova and Oliver Meier, along with a number of civil society organizations and

academics, established the Bioweapons Prevention Project, which aims to strengthen the norm against the use of disease as a weapon. The Project works to reduce the threat of bioweapons by monitoring and reporting governmental and other activities that are pertinent to compliance with relevant treaties. The Project is now an independent body based in Geneva and headed by Jean-Pascal Zanders.

20. A number of meetings under the Geneva Forum umbrella were held on the issue of biological weapons. A seminar entitled "The future of biological disarmament" was held in July 2002 as the second in a series of seminars to stimulate creative thinking in preparation for the resumed session of the fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention). In September 2002, the Geneva Forum held a two-day residential workshop on strengthening the implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention: the fifth Review Conference and beyond. A meeting entitled "the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention work programme (2003-2005): what does it mean and what can it achieve?" was held in July 2003.

21. In cooperation with the Centre for Conflict Resolution in Cape Town, South Africa, UNIDIR published *Project Coast: Apartheid's Chemical and Biological Warfare Programme* by Chandre Gould and Peter Folb. Lessons for the control of chemical and biological agents and particularly concerning their use by non-State actors are drawn for future reference.

22. In its last issue of 2002, the Institute's journal, *Disarmament Forum*, focused on the first Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (Convention on Chemical Weapons) held at The Hague in 2003. The Review Conference included the following papers: "The first CWC Review Conference: taking stock and paving the way ahead" by Alexander Kelle; "Evaluating the CWC verification system" by Daniel Feakes; "The Chemical Weapons Convention and universality: a question of quality over quantity?" by Jean-Pascal Zanders; "Scientific and technological change and the future of the CWC: the problem of non-lethal weapons" by Malcom Dando; and "Organizational culture of the OPCW Secretariat" by Mauritzio Barbeschi.

23. UNIDIR is now developing a fellowship programme to host research fellows from the biotechnology industry at UNIDIR so that they will learn about the complexity and importance of controls on biotechnology in the prevention of bioweapons.

5. Space technologies

24. In collaboration with Project Ploughshares and the Simons Foundation, UNIDIR held a meeting in November 2002 on outer space and global security and is publishing a report on the conference. In May 2003, UNIDIR, Project Ploughshares and the Acronym Institute followed up the seminar with a round table on space weaponization and security, and in June 2003, UNIDIR and the Simons Centre held a further follow-up meeting with the Center for Nonproliferation Studies of the Monterey Institute of International Studies and the Mountbatten Centre for International Studies at the University of Southampton with a meeting at Winston

House on missile proliferation, missile defences and space security: confronting and addressing new challenges.

25. The first edition of *Disarmament Forum* in 2003 focused on the issue of space. *Making Space for Security* included "Special comment" by Col. Chris A. Hadfield; "'Peaceful uses' of outer space has permitted its militarization — does it also mean its weaponization?" by Johannes Wolff; "Monsters and shadows: left unchecked, American fears regarding threats to space assets will drive weaponization" by Theresa Hitchens; "The world's space systems" by Laurence Nardon; "Is a space weapons ban feasible? Thoughts on technology and verification of arms control in space" by Regina Hagen and Jürgen Scheffran; and "Security without weapons in space: challenges and options" by Rebecca Johnson.

6. Implementing treaties

26. Between 1999 and 2002, UNIDIR carried out a research project on the costs of implementing disarmament treaties. The project, headed by Susan Willett, studied the costs of dismantling weapons; implementation bodies; verification activities; and various meetings of States parties. The first two publications resulting from the project were published in 2002. Two further publications are scheduled for publication in 2003.

27. A second project studied the common problems of the international implementing bodies of the Convention on Chemical Weapons, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, respectively the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization.

28. In cooperation with the Center for Nonproliferation Studies of the Monterey Institute of International Studies, UNIDIR began a research programme in 2001-2002 to study the role of regional bodies in implementing global treaties. The research, headed by Lawrence Scheinman of the Monterey Institute, includes workshops, an international conference and a report on the modes and mechanisms of treaty implementation activities by regional organizations, with a view to assessing the value of devolving regional work to regional bodies. The first workshop took place in Geneva in June 2002. A second phase of the project is now being developed.

7. Security and disarmament thinking

29. The Institute's handbook of definitions of arms control, disarmament and security terms entitled *Coming to Terms with Security: A Lexicon for Arms Control, Disarmament and Confidence-Building* has now been translated into Arabic, Hungarian, Korean and Spanish. UNIDIR is keen to see it translated into other languages so as to facilitate better understanding and assist in education about disarmament issues, particularly in countries with little tradition of study in the field.

30. In collaboration with the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre, UNIDIR has published *Coming to Terms with Security: A Handbook on Verification and Compliance* in Arabic and English.

31. During the last decade, several attempts have been made to reformulate the disarmament and security agenda. UNIDIR operates two electronic discussion forums on its web site (http://www.unidir.org): *e-di@logue* and *for comment*, to pool the current and innovative thinking that is taking place on the issue of a new security agenda. Participation in the forums is global in scope.

32. A research project and seminar series (co-hosted with the Department for Disarmament Affairs) on disarmament as humanitarian action was established in 2000. The aim of the project is to reframe the disarmament debate in terms of humanitarianism and to mainstream disarmament into humanitarian action. Following a successful inaugural meeting, the Institute, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue jointly held a third meeting in Geneva in November 2002, entitled "Disarmament, health and humanitarian action: putting people first". The purpose of the seminar was to develop cross-linkages, share knowledge and foster dialogue between the disarmament, humanitarian and health communities on issues relating to the effect on health of war and of the use of certain weapons, from a human security perspective.

33. Since its collaboration with the Department for Disarmament Affairs on the seminar on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security in August 1999, the Institute has been continuing research on this topic. New technological developments and the impacts on disarmament and security are also being researched for further consideration, and a meeting is being planned for December 2003 to coincide with the World Summit on the Information Society at the International Telecommunication Union in Geneva and the associated event on the role of science in the information society, hosted by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).

B. Regional security and disarmament

34. Regional security has always been a priority in the Institute's research programme. In recent years, UNIDIR has focused on Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, North-East Asia, South Asia and Central Asia.

1. Peacekeeping

35. UNIDIR and IFRI co-published *The United Nations Security Council at the Dawn of the XXI Century: Is There the Will and the Capacity to Maintain International Peace and Security?/Le Conseil de sécurité à l'aube du XXIème siècle: quelle volonté et quelle capacité a-t-il de maintenir la paix et la sécurité internationales?* by Pascal Teixeira. The first edition of the book came out in French in 2002 and the second edition in English will be published in 2003.

2. UNIDIR regional security fellowship

36. Over the last two years, the Institute's fellowship programme focused on regional security. Eight fellows were brought from two regions to work collectively for six months in Geneva. The aim of the fellowship is to provide new ideas for security policy in regions of conflict. The two regions of focus so far have been South Asia and the Middle East. Over the next two years, UNIDIR plans to focus on the Middle East, West Africa and North-East Asia.

3. Latin America

37. UNIDIR is publishing a book on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation with a focus on the experience of Latin America. "Las políticas globales, regionales y nacionales ante los regímenes de desarme y no-proliferación de armas nucleares", by Marcelo F. Valle Fonrouge, will be published in 2003.

38. As part of the contribution to security in Latin America, UNIDIR and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in Lima embarked on a collaborative project to establish a database on small arms and light weapons issues.

4. Asia

39. UNIDIR published *Internal Conflict and Regional Security in South Asia: Approaches, Perspectives and Policies* by Shiva Hari Dahal, Haris Gazdar, Soosaipillai Keethaponcalan and Padmaja Murthy from the South Asian fellowship.

40. The Institute's Deputy Director, Christophe Carle, wrote a paper on security in South Asia, to be published in 2003 in the United Nations University's forthcoming volume on the United Nations and South Asia.

41. In August and September 2002, UNIDIR hosted two research fellows from the Disarmament and Peace Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Pyongyang.

42. With the five central Asian States in the final stages of negotiating an agreement on a central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone, UNIDIR intends, at the appropriate time, to produce a study on the proposed zone, analysing its significance and its means of implementation.

43 Currently, UNIDIR is developing its research fellowship programme to encompass North-East Asia and to revisit South Asia. Funds are being sought for that endeavour.

5. Middle East

44. The Institute's lexicon of arms control, disarmament and security terms, *Coming to Terms with Security: a Lexicon for Arms Control, Disarmament and Confidence-Building*, has been translated into Arabic in an attempt to facilitate the arms control aspects of the Middle East peace process. The book, originally published in 2001, will be published in 2003 as a back-to-back English/Arabic volume and is intended for use by practitioners in the Middle East and as a training tool for young scholars and diplomats. The follow-up book, *Coming to Terms with Security: A Handbook on Verification and Compliance*, aimed at the same audience and also in English and Arabic, was published in June 2003.

45. In 2002, the Institute's regional fellowship programme focused on the Middle East. Four fellows from four countries in the Middle East worked on a single paper entitled "The roles of civil society and Government in building trust and confidence among the Israeli and Palestinian peoples: ideas for future policy". The fellows were Adel Atieh (Palestinian), Gilad Ben-Nun (Israeli), Gasser El Shahed (Egyptian) and Rana Taha (Jordanian). Following on the success of the fellowship, UNIDIR is developing a continuation of the Middle East fellowship programme and funds are currently being sought.

46. Since the fellowship ended in July 2002, two of the fellows have put the ideas generated at UNIDIR into practice on the ground. Working with the War-torn Societies Project International, Gilad Ben-Nun and Rana Taha have been seeking to implement trust and confidence-building measures in the Israeli-Palestinian context. The Institute and the Project are cooperating to co-host a series of research meetings to support the work.

47. In June 2003, UNIDIR and the Geneva Foundation held a workshop with Dan Bar-On of Ben-Gurion University and the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East. The meeting on confidence-building, identity and bottom-up processes: a pragmatic and psychosocial approach to Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation brought together United Nations agencies, medical practitioners, psychiatrists and conflict-prevention researchers to discuss the process of reconciliation.

48. In 2002, the League of Arab States and UNIDIR began a collaborative research and training programme. Wa'el al Assad, the Director of the newly formed Department for Disarmament in the League in Cairo, worked at UNIDIR for the period June-July. Mr. Al Assad researched and wrote a paper on the issue of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, attended the Conference on Disarmament and interacted with the diplomatic and research community at Geneva. In February 2003, UNIDIR and the League of Arab States held a successful workshop in Cairo concerning a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. A publication from that meeting in English and Arabic is in preparation.

49. Later in 2003, UNIDIR plans to hold a follow-up meeting in Geneva with key experts concerning a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. Experts from throughout the region will be invited to participate in the hope of taking the issue one step further.

C. Human security and disarmament

50. The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research is involved in academic and policy discussions on the topic of human security. The joint work by the Institute and the Department for Disarmament Affairs on disarmament as humanitarian action has been viewed as an important contribution to the current thinking on new approaches to security, and the Institute's work on small arms, landmines and health security has made a significant contribution to the field.

1. Small arms in West Africa

51. Small arms and light weapons are the cause of death for millions of people in violent conflicts in every part of the world. For many years, UNIDIR has focused on the issue of small arms.

52. A project to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States small arms moratorium by stimulating intellectual debates on national security policies and the control of small arms in a selection of West African States began late in 1998. The fundamental thinking behind the project is that for the fight against small arms to be effective and sustainable in a violence-torn region like West Africa, the participation of civil society is a necessary condition. Thus the project is rooted in civil society in West Africa. Along with a range of local non-governmental

organizations in Sierra Leone and Liberia, UNIDIR has initiated and is assisting in research, debate and discussion on the notions of security and the role that preventing the spread of small arms could play in national and regional security.

55. The Director of the West African project, Anatole Ayissi, published Fighting against Small Arms and Light Weapons Proliferation in West Africa: Handbook for the Training of Armed and Security Forces (editor, with Ibrahima Sall, Director of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance on Security and Development), UNIDIR, July 2003; "La lutte contre le drame des enfants soldats : le Conseil de sécurité contre le terrorisme à venir" (Combating the tragedy of child soldiers: the Security Council and the prevention of future terrorism), in Actualité et Droit International, July 2003, Nanterre, France (with Catherine Maia, Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France); "Guerre en République Démocratique du Congo : une Afrique en miniature, l'Afrique en devenir?" (War in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Africa in the making?), in La Tribune de Genève, 22 May 2003; "Ordre militaire et désordres politiques en Afrique : la fin des illusions" (Armed forces and political anarchy in Africa: the end of illusions), in Le Monde Diplomatique, Paris, January 2003; "Droits et misères de l'enfant en Afrique" (The rights and misery of children in Africa), in Etudes, Paris, October 2002; "Protecting children in armed conflicts: from commitment to compliance", in *Disarmament Forum*, 2002.

2. Weapons destruction and stockpile management in South Africa

54. In 1998 the Government of South Africa decided to destroy its surplus stockpile of small arms and light weapons. With the financial support of the Government of Norway, the South African National Defence Force has, since August 2000, destroyed over 260,000 weapons and the South African Police Service, 75,000 weapons. South Africa also assisted the Government of Lesotho in destroying over 4,200 weapons. In addition, the Government put in place a comprehensive stockpile management programme, thus ensuring that weapons were tracked, surplus weapons destroyed and the likelihood of weapons being diverted to national and regional illicit markets reduced. UNIDIR and the Small Arms Survey jointly conducted a study of the experience of South Africa. Two publications emerged from the research: the first, *Destroying Surplus Weapons: An Assessment of Experience in South Africa and Lesotho* by Sarah Meek and Noel Stott, is an evaluation of the programme and was presented at the First Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York in July 2003. The second will be a set of guidelines for stockpile management.

3. Weapons for development

55. Increasingly, the international community is turning to weapons collection programmes to dispose of the large surpluses of small arms that remain following a conflict. UNIDIR has begun a detailed analysis of selected weapons collection programmes in order to help policy makers, donor countries, the specialized agencies and international non-governmental organizations to devise better strategies to collect weapons from civilians and former combatants. Using participatory monitoring and evaluation techniques, UNIDIR has begun to identify the criteria for success for weapons collection, analyse and detail the characteristics of the best incentive schemes to collect the weapons, and attempt to identify the best

practices in collection methods, collecting locations and storage facilities to be used. The project is taking place over a period of two years, beginning in 2002 and ending in 2004, and will produce useable material throughout the period. The first field study took place in early 2003 in Mali. The next field trips will be to Albania and Cambodia. The first reports from the project were drafted and presented at the First Biennial Meeting of States in July 2003.

4. Tracing and marking of small arms and light weapons

56. In 2002, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the Small Arms Survey began a joint study on the scope and implications of a tracing mechanism for small arms and light weapons. Technical authors were commissioned to write five papers and publish them in English and French in 2003. The papers were presented to the Group of Governmental Experts on Tracing Small Arms and Light Weapons.

5. Geneva Forum meetings on small arms

57. The Geneva Forum is a collaborative programme started in 1998 between UNIDIR, the Quaker United Nations Office and the Geneva Graduate Institute of International Studies. Part of the Forum's work is the convening of a series of discussions in Geneva on controlling the spread of small arms.

58. During the biennium, the Geneva Forum held a number of meetings on small arms and light weapons (see para. 75), including seven meetings of the Geneva process, a discussion forum on the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

59. In addition, Valerie Yankey collected information from States, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations and worked with the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) to collect information from the non-governmental organization networks. Elli Kytomaki and the Survey put the information into a database that is now online and accessible on the UNIDIR web site.

6. Capacity-building for responding to the Programme of Action

60. In partnership with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and UNIDIR, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is carrying out a project to develop capacity in relevant countries to assist them in their reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. UNIDIR will host a research meeting to assist capacity-building. By July 2003, over 30 countries had been contacted, and different levels of assistance were requested. Analysis of the results and the proposed follow-on work will be discussed at a meeting in September 2003.

7. Landmines

61. As part of the costs of disarmament project, UNIDIR carried out a pilot project on participatory evaluation of the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel

Mines and on Their Destruction, commonly known as the Mine Ban Convention. The project uses the techniques of participatory monitoring and evaluation. The project produced the report, *Participatory Monitoring of Humanitarian Mine Action: Giving Voice to Citizens of Nicaragua, Mozambique and Cambodia*, by Susan Willett (ed.).

8. Health and security

62. The connections between security and health are increasingly of interest in the disarmament and security debate. UNIDIR is cooperating with the World Health Organization, other United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations on the effects of and issues pertaining to interpersonal violence and the spread of weapons. In November 2002, UNIDIR, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue held a meeting on disarmament, health and humanitarian action: putting people first. UNIDIR has also been collaborating with the University of Liverpool on the long-term effects of the use of chemical weapons on civilians as part of a programme to assist the Kurdish people of Iraq and others who were exposed to a cocktail of agents in 1988. New work following the significant changes in Iraq since April 2003 will now make a critical difference in the depth and range of research that can be carried out in the field.

9. Children and security

63. The third issue of *Disarmament Forum* in 2002 was dedicated to children and security. The contents included "Special comment" by Olara A. Otunnu; "Protecting children in armed conflict: from commitment to compliance" by Anatole Ayissi; "Child soldiers, displacement and human security" by Lisa Alfredson; "Juvenile justice, counter-terrorism and children" by Rachel Brett; "The impact of conflict on children — the role of small arms" by Julia Freedson; and "Education for children during armed conflicts and post-conflict reconstruction" by Isabelle Roger.

V. Networking

64. One of the Institute's main functions is to cooperate actively with specialized agencies, organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and with other organizations active in the field of disarmament. UNIDIR has a number of formal and informal programmes and working arrangements with a wide selection of other organizations.

A. Electronic networking

65. In cooperation with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Lima, the International Security Network and the University of Pittsburgh in the United States of America, UNIDIR has begun a collaborative project to establish a database on researchers and institutes around the world on small arms and light weapons and other security issues.

66. The Institute's new web site was launched late in 2002. Since that time, the web site has had an average number of 490,000 hits per month, and, of those, 6,400 per month are first-time users.

67. The web site now has a new networking feature, "Roundtable", which comprises two parts, *e-di@logue* and *for comment* (see also para. 31). *E-di@logue* is a discussion forum in which short pieces are put up for wider discussion. *For comment* provides a way for UNIDIR authors to obtain comments on draft papers before they are published and to get new ideas out to a more international audience.

B. *Disarmament Forum*

68. UNIDIR publishes a bilingual quarterly journal, *Disarmament Forum*. Each issue has a theme related to security and disarmament. The journal includes papers by experts focusing on the theme and shorter articles on other subjects. Summaries of the Institute's current research projects and recent publications are contained within each issue. Other institutes are encouraged to inform UNIDIR of their activities for inclusion. Recent topics include: nuclear terrorism, security in space, the Chemical Weapons Convention Review Conference and children and security. Forthcoming issues will highlight development and disarmament and gender issues in disarmament and include a special fifth anniversary issue.

C. Education for disarmament

69. The Group of Governmental Experts on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education submitted its report to the Secretary-General and to the General Assembly in October 2002. UNIDIR attended the expert group meetings as a participating United Nations agency and has now substantially increased its work on disarmament education.

70. From 28 April to 8 May 2003, UNIDIR sponsored a public exhibit at the Palais des Nations about the life of Linus Pauling, a scientist and nuclear abolitionist. The exhibition was co-organized with Oregon State University, the Linus Pauling family, Soka Gakkai International, CERN and the University of Geneva.

D. Conferences, seminars and discussion meetings

71. UNIDIR holds a range of different types of research meetings, both in Geneva and in different regions around the world. The meetings are held with the dual purpose of examining issues of security, arms control and disarmament and of fostering cooperation with and among research institutes in the areas concerned.

72. Through its electronic forum, *e-di@logue*, UNIDIR provides an opportunity for research institutes and national and international organizations working in the area of disarmament and international security to become more familiar with one another. The forum can be accessed through the UNIDIR web site.

73. UNIDIR has substantially increased its outreach to the media. It has held several press conferences, often in cooperation with other organizations, to inform

the press of the current negotiations in Geneva and of new research that has been published.

74. The Geneva Forum is the regular venue for information and informal discussion among the diplomatic and research communities in Geneva. The Geneva Forum brings together the three main sectors in Geneva — disarmament, human rights and humanitarian action — to discuss mutual interests in security and disarmament issues and further expand the thinking in those communities.

75. Recent meetings held under the auspices of the Geneva Forum included the following:

- Small arms Programme of Action implementation: seven meetings of the Geneva process, 2002-2003
- The United Nations Programme of Action on small arms: how much progress have we made? Seminar with IANSA and Biting the Bullet Project, June 2003
- Pakistan's foreign policy since 9/11, Riaz H. Khokhar, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, May 2003
- Rights versus charity: landmine survivors and the movement to create a human rights convention for persons with disabilities, seminar with Landmine Survivors Network, May 2003
- The nuclear issue post-Iraq, Joseph Rotblat, President Emeritus, Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs; Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 1995 and recipient of the Linus Pauling Prize, May 2003
- Small arms in the Pacific, seminar with Harvard School of Public Health and University of British Columbia, April 2003
- The question of the trade, carrying and use of small arms and light weapons in the context of human rights and humanitarian norms, seminar with the Human Rights Programme, Institute for Global Studies at the University of Minnesota, March 2003
- The role of International Organizations at the First Biennial Meeting of States to Consider Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons, February 2003
- Sixth Consultation with United Nations Agencies and intergovernmental organizations on small arms-related work, January 2003
- Indian foreign policy: challenges and prospects, Kanwal Sibal, Foreign Secretary of India, January 2003
- Making global public policy: the case of small arms and light weapons, seminar with Monterey Institute of International Studies, December 2002
- Press breakfast to launch the Bioweapons Prevention Project, November 2002
- Strengthening implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention: The Fifth Review Conference and beyond, residential workshop, September 2002

- The Mine Ban Convention and non-State actors: a case study of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, seminar with Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka, August 2002
- The future of biological disarmament, seminar with London School of Economics and Political Science, July 2002

E. Collaboration with other institutions

76. UNIDIR has continued to increase the numbers of collaborating institutes for research projects and meetings. The International Security Forum took place in November 2002 in Zurich. UNIDIR participated fully and held a workshop on the work of UNIDIR at the Forum. As part of its contribution to the Forum, the Government of Switzerland is funding "Clusters of Competence" discussion groups in Switzerland. UNIDIR is an active member of the arms control cluster and participates in regular meetings on specific aspects of conflict and arms control.

77. As part of an attempt to improve the functioning of the United Nations system, there is increased cooperation among the organs of the United Nations. UNIDIR has increased its cooperation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs through the joint project on disarmament as humanitarian action, through the involvement of UNIDIR personnel with the various studies by groups of governmental experts and through the substantive support UNIDIR can provide. UNIDIR continues to be a member of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism, an initiative of the Department.

78. UNIDIR is also continuing its collaboration with UNDP on small arms and development issues and is working closely with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa. UNIDIR is working with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean on a database project.

79. UNIDIR is cooperating in a project initiated and run by UNDP on capacity-building for reporting on the implementation of the Programme of Action on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (see para. 60).

80. UNIDIR has worked with a number of other bodies within the United Nations system. The Institute aims to support work towards peace and international security throughout the United Nations and is particularly interested in linking peace, security, disarmament, human rights and development together. UNIDIR is participating in a series of meetings, the Geneva research and policy dialogue, held by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva to increase cooperation between United Nations research bodies and outside research institutes. As a result of such meetings, UNIDIR has recently increased its collaborative work with other United Nations research organizations. In November 2002, the third Geneva Research and Policy Dialogue was held under the joint invitation of the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations University. Research collaboration between the organizations has been fostered as a result of that series of meetings.

F. Fellowship and internship programme

81. Under the UNIDIR fellowship programme, four visiting research fellows from a single region are invited to Geneva for a period of six months. The researchers work collectively on a single research paper, focusing on a particularly difficult question of regional security. The research paper then feeds into policy debates on the security of their region. The aims of the visiting fellows programme are to provide training for researchers from developing States; to allow them to interact with each other and with researchers from developed States, the United Nations Secretariat, delegations and non-governmental institutes; and to increase the quality of the Institute's work, thereby enhancing the quality of the Institute's information that goes to Governments and institutes.

82. UNIDIR also hosted visiting fellows from the League of Arab States and from Canada, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland and Slovenia.

83. The Institute's increasingly competitive internship programme brings young research interns from all over the world to work at UNIDIR for short periods. During the period 2002-2003, UNIDIR hosted 35 interns from 18 countries. For the most part graduate students, of whom many are on scholarships, interns are assigned to a research unit as assistants. UNIDIR has streamlined its internship programme and has an internship coordinator so that the needs of students and the Institute are better matched. Funding for internships is being sought so that UNIDIR can offer more places to young people without financial resources.

84. UNIDIR has begun partnerships with several universities for internships. UNIDIR also hosts one Canadian junior professional consultant each year and is negotiating to host another from a developing country in partnership with an international organization. With regard to the internships, most of the partnerships are based on agreements that recognize UNIDIR as a legitimate provider of internships for university students. That means that students who are accepted at UNIDIR can obtain university credits for their internship or that their internship can otherwise be counted as part of the university requirements for a degree. Some students can benefit from an internship to work towards their Bachelor's or License degree, and others are required to fulfil an internship requirement for their graduate Master's degree. Some universities provide full or partial financial support for the students whom they send to UNIDIR. Twelve universities are currently partnering with UNIDIR.

VI. Publications

85. UNIDIR is planning a large number of publications over the coming 18 months. Those include the quarterly journal, *Disarmament Forum*, and a number of books and research reports.

86. Between July 2002 and July 2003, UNIDIR published a number of books and reports. For details, please visit the UNIDIR web site at http://www.unidir.ch/html/en/publications.php.

VII. Conclusions and observations

87. **As described in the present report, during the past year the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research has pursued an ambitious research programme on peace and security issues and has stimulated valuable debate on disarmament issues in Geneva and beyond. Furthermore, the Institute has greatly expanded its communication, outreach and education activities.**

88. **The Director values the continued and increasing support of Member States and organizations in ensuring the ability of the Institute to fulfil its mandate and sustain its activities.**

Annex I

Income and expenditure for 2001 and 2002 and estimates for 2003 and 2004

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Items	*2001*	*2002*	*2003 (Estimates)*	*2004 (Estimates)*
A. Funds available at the beginning of the year	850.6	1 011.4[a]	1 441.5[c]	915.6[d]
B. Income:				
– Voluntary contributions and public donations	880.1	1 426.6	607.2	514.8
– Subvention from the United Nations regular budget	213.0	219.5	227.6	227.6
– Other interorganizational contributions	58.0	1.1	–	–
– Interest income	50.9	55.7	40.0	20.0
– Miscellaneous income	1.6	1.4	–	–
Total income	**1 203.7**	**1 704.3**	**874.8**	**762.4**
C. Prior period adjustments	–	6.5[b]	–	–
D. Prior period obligations	–	47.5	–	–
E. Total funds available	2 054.3	2 769.7	2 316.3	1 678.0
F. Expenditure	1 042.9	1 328.0	1 400.7	1 271.8
G. Other accounts payable	–	0.2	–	–
H. Fund balance at the end of the year	1 011.4[a]	1 441.5[c]	915.6[d]	406.2[e]

[a] Includes $124,500 required as operating cash reserve for 2001.
[b] Includes $4,100 representing the contribution from New Zealand for 2001, which was credited to UNIDIR in 2002, and an adjustment of the programme support cost for 2001 in the amount of $2,373.
[c] Includes $166,000 required as operating cash reserve for 2002.
[d] Includes $167,600 required as operating cash reserve for 2003.
[e] Includes $149,200 required as operating cash reserve for 2004.

Annex II

Resource requirements

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Resource requirements	*2001* *(1)*	*2002* *(2)*	*2003[a]* *(Estimates)* *(3)*	*2004[a]* *(Estimates)* *(4)*	*Increase/ decrease* *(4-3)*
A. Direct programme and administrative costs					
– Salaries and related staff costs	481.8[b]	468.7	518.4	518.4	–
– Temporary assistance for meetings	1.7	0.2	1.0	1.0	–
– Consultants' fees and travel	31.1	26.2	60.0	20.0	(40.0)
– Ad hoc expert groups	23.5	39.0	30.0	44.2	14.2
– Personal service contract	344.7	564.6	610.4	553.5	(56.9)
– Official travel of staff	75.3	54.3	90.0	50.0	(40.0)
– External printing	0.7	–	–	–	–
– Language training	–	–	1.0	1.0	–
– Other specialized training	7.2	1.1	5.0	5.0	–
– Other contractual services	–	–	2.5	2.5	–
– Hospitality	4.0	2.6	4.0	4.0	–
– Rental of conference room	–	–	2.0	1.0	–
– Rental of conference service equipment	–	0.1	1.0	1.0	–
– Rental of office equipment	2.3	–	–	–	–
– Bank charges	1.0	0.4	–	–	–
– Other miscellaneous services	–	1.3	–	–	–
– Maintenance of office automation equipment	0.2	1.6	2.0	2.0	–
– Paper for internal reproduction	8.6	10.2	10.0	10.0	–
– Subscriptions and standing orders	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.5	–
– Photographic supplies	–	0.2	–	–	–
– Data-processing supplies	0.3	–	–	–	–

Resource requirements	*2001* *(1)*	*2002* *(2)*	*2003[a] (Estimates)* *(3)*	*2004[a] (Estimates)* *(4)*	*Increase/ decrease* *(4-3)*
– Acquisition of office equipment	10.1	14.7	5.0	5.0	–
– Fellowship programme (stipend)	(0.6)	82.6	–	–	–
– Fellowship programme (travel)	9.8	3.7	–	–	–
– Loss on exchange	–	1.6	–	–	–
Total A	**1 003.4**	**1 275.3**	**1 344.8**	**1 222.1**	**(122.7)**
B. Programme support costs (5 per cent of total A, less United Nations subvention)	39.5	52.7	55.9	49.7	(6.2)
Total expenditure (Total A + B)	**1 042.9**	**1 328.0**	**1 400.7**	**1 271.8**	**(128.9)**
C. Operating cash reserve (At least 15 per cent of total A, less United Nations subvention)	124.5	166.0	167.6	149.2	(18.4)
Total (A + B + C)	**1 167.4**	**1 494.0**	**1 568.3**	**1 421.0**	**(147.3)**

[a] Figures may be increased upon the confirmation of current funding proposals.
[b] Includes part of the 2000 salaries and related staff costs.

A. Direct programme and administrative costs for 2004

Upon approval of pending fund-raising applications, the provisions made for programme and administrative costs are minimal and will be increased as funding becomes available.

Salaries and related staff costs: $518,400. The estimated amount is needed to cover the salaries and related staff costs of UNIDIR regular staff. In 2003 the regular staff will consist of the Director (D-2), the Deputy Director (D-1) and two General Service staff. The total estimated requirements under this heading reflect no change over the 2003 revised requirements.

Consultants' fees and travel: $20,000. This provision will be needed to hire the services of a professional designer for the cover pages of the Institute's publications ($10,000) and to fund consultancies for the study on weapons for development: lessons learned from weapons collection programmes. It reflects a negative growth of $40,000 over the 2003 revised requirements.

Ad hoc expert groups: $44,200. The provision reflects an increase of $14,200 over the 2003 budget requirements and will be needed to cover the travel expenses of experts participating in the final expert group meetings for the project on weapons for development: lessons learned from weapons collection programmes.

Personal service contracts: $553,500. This provision will be needed to extend the contracts of the in-house staff working on recurrent projects. In 2000, those contracts were brought into line with regular United Nations contracts, and in 2001 the related posts were graded by the Office of Human Resources Management of the United Nations Office at Geneva. In 2002, the salaries were increased to bring net salaries in line with the related gradings. The estimated requirements reflect a decrease of $56,900 over the 2003 revised requirements, as the weapons for development project should end in September 2004.

Official travel of staff: $50,000. The estimated requirements for travel of staff in 2004 reflect a decrease of $40,000 over the 2003 revised estimates since most of the field travel for the project entitled "Weapons for development: lessons learned from weapons collection programmes", will be undertaken in 2003. Other project-related travel will be added if funds are received for that purpose. The Director and members of the staff receive invitations to conferences and seminars which have to be declined because of the limited travel budget of UNIDIR. However, they also receive a number of invitations where the costs are covered by the host institution: such travel will at times be combined with UNIDIR's missions, thereby reducing costs to the Institute. Travel for fund-raising purposes will as far as possible be combined with travel for other purposes.

Provisions made for items such as **language training, other specialized training, other contractual services, rental of conference room, rental of conference-servicing equipment, maintenance of office automation equipment, paper for internal reproduction, subscriptions and standing orders, and acquisition of office equipment** are identical to the 2003 revised requirements, and provisions will be increased as projects develop.

Fellowship (stipend and travel): No provision has been made as yet for the year 2004, pending the approval of funding proposals. UNIDIR hopes to be able to continue the programme.

B. Programme support costs

A provision of $49,700, representing 5 per cent of the total estimated expenditure less the amount of the United Nations regular budget subvention of $227,600 will be needed for programme support costs in 2004.

C. Operating cash reserve

In compliance with administrative instruction ST/AI/284, an amount of $149,200 representing 15 per cent of the total 2004 estimated expenditure funded from extrabudgetary resources will be kept as operating cash reserve.